

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11776 151552Z

ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INT-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 979

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UNCLAS MOSCOW 11776

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN ENRG US UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENERGY AGREEMENT: MHD (08.0208); CRYOGENIC MAGNET
COOL-DOWN

1. LAST MEMBERS OF US TEAM WORKING ON COOL-DOWN OF CRYOGENIC
MAGNET DEPARTED MOSCOW 12 AUGUST. THIS ARGONNE LAB TEAM WAS
UNABLE TO ACHIEVE FULL MAGNET COOL-DOWN BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY
BELIEVE IS WATER-CONTAMINATION OF THE SOVIET-SUPPLIED HELIUM
REFRIGERANT. DELEGATION HAS INSTRUCTED SOVIETS ON HOW TO
PURIFY HELIUM AND IMPROVE REFRIGERANT CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.
REPRESENTATIVE FROM US FIRM WHICH SUPPLIED REFRIGERATION
EQUIPMENT, CTI, WILL ARRIVE MOSCOW 22 AUGUST TO INSPECT
SYSTEM. USDEL EXPECTS CTI REP TO REMAIN UNTIL 5-10 SEPTEMBER.

2. DELEGATION HAS EXPLAINED TO SOVIETS THE TECHNICAL
CONDITIONS WHICH MUST BE MAINTAINED WHILE DELEGATION IS ABSENT
(E.G. MAGNET KEPT AT 20 DEGREES KELVIN), AND THOSE CONDITIONS
WHICH MUST BE MET BEFORE DELEGATION RETURNS TO COMPLETE COOL-
DOWN (PRINCIPALLY IN HELIUM PURITY AND SUPPLY). DELEGATION
EXPECTS SOVIETS TO ACHIEVE THESE CONDITIONS IN ABOUT ONE
MONTH, AT WHICH TIME DELEGATION WILL RETURN FOR ABOUT ONE
WEEK TO COMPLETE COOL-DOWN.

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3. THIS ONE-MONTH DELAY IN ACHIEVING COOL-DOWN OF MAGNET WILL
PROBABLY NOT BE DETERMINING FACTOR IN TIMING OF MAGNET TESTS,
HOWEVER. DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT SOVIETS ARE MORE THAN ONE
MONTH BEHIND IN INSTALLATION OF WATER PIPING AROUND FACILITY,
AND THAT EARLIEST POSSIBLE TESTING PERIOD NOW NOVEMBER.

4. DELEGATION STRESSED THAT COOPERATION HAS BEEN EXCELLENT,
AND THAT SOVITS, WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING WEEK-ENDS AND CANCELLING
VACATIONS, ARE STRIVING TO COMPLETE THIS STAGE OF THE JOINT
PROJECT.
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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